Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABU DH 01145 280722Z

12

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 SS-20 CPR-02 SCA-01 PRS-01 SY-04

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R 250530Z AUG 74 FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1964 INFO USUN NEW YORK 0065

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, TC

SUBJECT: HIGH LEVEL ATTENDANCE AT 29TH UNGA

REF: STATE 170108

1. I RAISED QUESTION OF UAEG ATTENDANCE AT 29TH UNGA WITH MINSTATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS SAIF GHUBBASH AUGUST 24. (GHUBBASH HAS BEEN OUT OF COUNTRY FOR PAST THREE WEEKS AND PRIOR HIS RETURN MINISTRY HAS BEEN VIRTUALLY DESERTED FOR ALL OF AUGUST.) GHUBBASH SAID HE EXPECTED FONMINISTER AHMED KHALIFA AL-SUWAIDI TO GO TO NEW YORK FOR ASSEMBLY SESSION AND STATED HE THOUGHT SUWAIDI SCHEDULED ADDRESS PLENARY OCTOBER 8. TIMING OF VISIT WOULD BE TIED TO THAT DATE BUT GHUBBASH HAD NO DETAILS. IF SUWAIDI FOR SOME REASON CANNOT ATTEND THEN GHUBBASH HIMSELF WOULD GO. AS FOR REMAINDER OF DELEGATION, GHUBBASH ONLY MENTIONED SOME RELATIVELY JUNIOR FONMIN OFFICIALS BEING SENT ESSENTIALLY FOR TRAINING AND EXPOSURE.

2. GHUBBASH PROMISED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL DETAILS WHEN AVAILABLE, BUT WE EXPECT THIS LIKELY BE AT LAST MINUTE. SUWAIDI NOW OUT OF COUNTRY WITH SHAIKH ZAYID AND IT UNCERTAIN WHEN THEY TILL RETURN--PERHAPS NOT UNTIL NEAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 ABU DH 01145 280722Z

END OF RAMADAN ACCORDING TO GHUBBASH. UNDER THESE CIR-

CUMSTANCES IT VERY DIFFICULT FOR ANYONE HERE TO SAY WHAT IS GOING TOHAPPEN OR WHEN. EMBASSY WILL FOLLOW UP AND DO BEST PROVIDE TIMELY ADVISE.

3. RE POSSIBLE MEETING WITH SECRETARY, GHUBBASH MADE NO MENTION AND I DID NOT RAISE SUBJECT. WE ASSUME HOWEVER,

THAT IF SUWAIDI DOES ATTEND SESSION, HE WOULD DEFINITELY BE ON SECRETARY LIST OF APPOINTMENTS WITH OIL PRODUCTION/PRICING AS WELL AS MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS BEING PRIME TOPICS OF CONVERSATION.
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